

72



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/737,300	12/16/2003	Michael Muller	LOT920030036US1	7679

23550 7590 11/24/2006

HOFFMAN WARNICK & D'ALESSANDRO, LLC
75 STATE STREET
14TH FLOOR
ALBANY, NY 12207

EXAMINER

PHAM, MICHAEL

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2167

DATE MAILED: 11/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/737,300

Applicant(s)

MULLER ET AL.

Examiner

Michael D. Pham

Art Unit

2167

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 September 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Detailed Action

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6462762 by Ku et. al. (hereafter Ku).

Claim 1:

A method for providing a compact interface for display of an object hierarchy having a plurality of levels, comprising:

displaying a first level root node of the object hierarchy[Figure 2, discloses an example by displaying A as a first level root node of the object hierarchy.];

upon selection of the first level root node, displaying pop-up window that includes a listing of all second level child nodes of the first level root node immediately adjacent the first level root node [Col. 2 line 54-57, discloses node selection. Col. 2 lines 57-61, once a particular node is selected as the root node, a truncated tree structure is displayed showing the selected node as the root node, the portion of the tree structure not branching from the selected node being omitted from the display. Figures 3-4 upon selection of a node, displays a listing of next level

Art Unit: 2167

child nodes adjacent to the previous level root node. Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)]; and

selecting one of the second level child nodes from the listing of all second level child nodes

included in the pop-up window[col. 2 lines 53-67, once a particular node (i.e. can be a second level child node) is selected as the root node, a truncated tree structure is displayed showing the selected node as the root node, the portion of the tree structure not branching from the selected node being omitted from the display. Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)];

wherein, upon selection of one of the second level child nodes, the pop-up window that

includes the listing of all second level child nodes of the first level root node disappears, and

is replaced by the selected second level child node is displayed immediately adjacent and to

the side of the first level root node [figure 3-4 disclose upon selection of a node (e.g. F), it

displays a listing of next level child nodes adjacent to the previous root node (e.g. h, and i). Col.

7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)].

Claim 2:

The method of claim 1, further comprising:

upon selection of the displayed second level child node [figure 6, discloses selecting a second level child node (e.g. C).],

displaying a pop-up window that includes a listing of all third level child nodes of the

displayed second level child node immediately adjacent and to a side of the displayed

second child node [figure 6, lists third level child nodes of the second level child nodes

immediately adjacent the displayed child node (e.g. g and f). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)]; and

selecting one of the third level child nodes from the listing of all third level child nodes included in the pop-up window[figures 4, selecting a third level (e.g. f). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)];

wherein, upon selection of one of the third level child nodes [figure 4, selection of third level child node (e.g. f)], **the pop-up window that includes the listing of all third level child nodes of the displayed second level child node disappears** [e.g. figure 2, we see the window listing all third child nodes of the displayed second child node. Figure 4, we do not see the third level child nodes of the displayed second level child node. Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], **and is replaced by the selected third level child node, which is displayed immediately adjacent and to the side of the displayed second child node** [figures 4, selected third child node displayed adjacent the displayed second child node (e.g. A->C->F). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)].

Claim 3:

The method of claim 2, further comprising: selectively repeating the above-described steps for at least one subsequent level in the object hierarchy, wherein each selected node is displayed immediately adjacent and to a side of a selected node from a previous level of the object hierarchy [figure 2 we see A. Figure 6, we see A->C. Figure 4 we see A->C->F. Each of the selected nodes are displayed immediately adjacent a selected node from a previous level of

Art Unit: 2167

the object hierarchy.].

Claim 4:

The method of claim 3, wherein the first level root node and any selected nodes are displayed in a linear arrangement, wherein only a single node is displayed for each level of the object hierarchy[figures 2-6 element 22 discloses a first level root node and any selected nodes are displayed in a linear arrangement wherein a single node is displayed for each level of the object hierarchy. (e.g. A->C->F)].

Claim 5:

The method of claim 4, further comprising, upon selection of one of the displayed nodes: displaying a pop-up window that includes a listing of all sibling nodes of the selected displayed node [figure 3, upon selection of F there is a display of g (e.g. a sibling). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], and a pop-up window that includes a listing of all child nodes of the selected displayed node adjacent the selected displayed node [figures 3&4. upon selection of F there is a display of child nodes of F. Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)].

Claim 6:

The method of claim 4, further comprising, upon selection of one of the displayed nodes: displaying a pop-up window that includes a listing of at least one level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node[Figure 3, upon selection of F displays list of at least one level of

Art Unit: 2167

ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node. (e.g. c, b, and a). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], a **pop-up window that includes a listing of all sibling nodes of the selected displayed node**, and a **pop-up window that includes a listing of all child nodes of the selected displayed node**[figures 3, upon selection of F there is a display of g (e.g. sibling), and a listing of all child nodes of the selected display node (e.g. h and i). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)].

Claim 7:

The method of claim 4, further comprising, upon selection of one of the displayed nodes: displaying a **pop-up window that includes a listing of each level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node**[Figure 3, upon selection of F displays list of at least one level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node. (e.g. c, b, and a). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], a **pop-up window that includes a listing of all sibling nodes of the selected displayed node**[figure 3, upon selection of F there is a display of g (e.g. a sibling). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], and a **pop-up window that includes a listing of each level of descendant nodes of the selected displayed node**[figures 3, upon selection of F there is a display listing of all child nodes of the selected display node (e.g. h and i). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)].

Claim 8:

The method of claim 1, further comprising: associating at least one of the displayed nodes with a functionality[col. 2 lines 1-9, display nodes are a way to view and navigate through a

Art Unit: 2167

complex hierarchy of information.]; **and upon selection of one of the displayed nodes, executing the functionality associated with the selected node**[Col. 7 lines 65-67 to col. 8 lines 1-13, upon selection of display nodes it executes menu options.].

Claim 9:

A system for providing a compact interface for display of an object hierarchy having a plurality of levels, comprising:

a display system for displaying elements of the compact interface [col. 2 lines 30-45, discloses problem of large displays. Col. 2 lines 53-67 discloses truncating a tree structure display which provides compact interfacing.];

a system for selecting displayed elements of the compact interface [col. 2 lines 53-67, selection of displayed nodes.]; **and**

a system for updating the compact interface based of the elements selected by the selecting system[col. 7 lines 1-13 selecting the use-as-root node command such as by selecting F as shown in Figure 3 causes the currently open window 21 and 22 to be updated or rewritten.];

wherein, upon selection of a displayed first level root node, a listing of all second level child nodes of the first level root node is displayed in a pop-up window immediately adjacent the first level root node [Col. 2 line 54-57, discloses node selection. Col. 2 lines 57-61, once a

Art Unit: 2167

particular node is selected as the root node, a truncated tree structure is displayed showing the selected node as the root node, the portion of the tree structure not branching from the selected node being omitted from the display. Figures 3-4 upon selection of a node, displays a listing of next level child nodes adjacent to the previous level root node. Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], **and wherein, upon selection of one of the second level child nodes from the listing of all second level child nodes included in the pop-up window, the listing of all second level child nodes of the first level root node is no longer displayed, and is replaced by the selected second level child node, which is displayed immediately adjacent and to the side of the first level root node** [col. 2 lines 53-67, once a particular node (i.e. can be a second level child node) is selected as the root node, a truncated tree structure is displayed showing the selected node as the root node, the portion of the tree structure not branching from the selected node being omitted from the display. Example, figure 3 and 4, wherein selecting F no longer displays g and in figure 4 element 21 is now A->C->F. Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up).].

Claim 10:

The system of claim 9, wherein, upon selection of the displayed second level child node[figure 6, discloses selecting a second level child node (e.g. C).], **a listing of all third level child nodes of the second level child node is displayed in a pop-up window immediately adjacent and to a side of the second child node** [figure 6, lists third level child nodes of the second level child nodes immediately adjacent the displayed child node (e.g. g and f). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], **and wherein, upon selection of one of the third**

Art Unit: 2167

level child nodes from the listing of all third level child nodes included in the pop-up window[figures 4, selecting a third level (e.g. f). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], **the window listing all third level child nodes of the second level child node is no longer displayed**[e.g. figure 2, we see the window listing all third child nodes of the displayed second child node. Figure 4, we do not see the third level child nodes of the displayed second level child node], **and is replaced by the selected third level child node, which is displayed immediately adjacent and to the side of the second child node** [figures 4, selected third child node displayed adjacent the displayed second child node (e.g. A->C->F)].

Claim 11:

The system of claim 10, wherein each selected node is displayed immediately adjacent and to a side of a selected node from a previous level of the object hierarchy [figures 2-6 element 22 displaying selected nodes immediately adjacent a selected node from a previous level of the object hierarchy. (e.g. A->C->F)].

Claim 12:

The system of claim 11, wherein the first level root node and any selected nodes are displayed in a linear arrangement, wherein only a single node is displayed for each level of the object hierarchy [figures 2-6 element 22 discloses a first level root node and any selected nodes are displayed in a linear arrangement wherein a single node is displayed for each level of the object hierarchy. (e.g. A->C->F)].

Art Unit: 2167

Claim 13:

The system of claim 12, wherein, upon selection of one of the displayed nodes, a pop-up window that includes a listing of all sibling nodes of the selected displayed node is displayed

[figure 3, upon selection of F there is a display of g (e.g. a sibling). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)] **and a pop-up window that includes a listing of all child nodes of the selected displayed node are displayed adjacent the selected displayed node** [figures 3&4. upon selection of F there is a display of child nodes of F (i.e. h and I). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)].

Claim 14:

The system of claim 12, wherein, upon selection of one of the displayed nodes, a pop-up window that includes a listing of at least one level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node[Figure 3, upon selection of F displays list of at least one level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node. (e.g. c, b, and a). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], **a pop-up window that includes a listing of all sibling nodes of the selected displayed node, and a pop-up window that includes a listing of all child nodes of the selected displayed node are displayed adjacent the selected displayed node** [figures 3, upon selection of F there is a display of g (e.g. sibling), and a listing of all child nodes of the selected display node (e.g. h and i). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)].

Claim 15:

Art Unit: 2167

The system of claim 12, wherein, upon selection of one of the displayed nodes, a pop-up window that includes a listing of each level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node[Figure 3, upon selection of F displays list of at least one level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node. (e.g. c, b, and a). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], a pop-up window that includes a listing of all sibling nodes of the selected displayed node, and a pop-up window that includes a listing of each level of descendant nodes of the selected displayed node are displayed adjacent the selected displayed node [figures 3, upon selection of F there is a display of g (e.g. sibling), and a listing of all descendant nodes of the selected display node are displayed adjacent the selected displayed node (e.g. h and i). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)].

Claim 16:

A compact interface for displaying an object hierarchy having a plurality of levels, comprising:

a first level root node of the object hierarchy[Figure 2, discloses an example by displaying A as a first level root-node of the object hierarchy.];

a single second level node of the object hierarchy, wherein the second level node is a child of the first level root node[Figure 6, a second level node of an object hierarchy (A->C) where C is the second level node of the object hierarchy.]; and

a single third level node of the object hierarchy, wherein the third level node is a child of the second level node[Figure 4, a third level node of an object hierarchy. (A->C->F) where F is the third level node];

Art Unit: 2167

wherein the first level root node, second level node, and third level node are displayed in a linear arrangement, wherein the first level root node and second level node are live, and wherein the third level node is live if it has any child nodes [col. 2 lines 53-67, figures 2-6, figure 7. If the selected node is not different from the current root node then it means that there is no child and therefore it is not live.].

Claim 17:

The compact interface of claim 16, wherein, upon selection of a live node, a pop-up window that includes a listing of all child nodes of the selected live node is displayed adjacent the selected live node [Figure 3 and 4, selecting F causes the child nodes of F to be displayed adjacent to F (i.e. displayed is H and I next to F). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)].

Claim 18:

The compact interface of claim 16, wherein, upon selection of a live node, a pop-up window that includes a listing of all sibling nodes of the selected live node is displayed [figure 3, selection of F. displayed is still the siblings of F, namely G). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], and a pop-up window that includes a listing of all child nodes of the selected live node is displayed adjacent the listing of all sibling nodes [Figure 3, upon selection of F the child nodes of F are still displayed adjacent H and I (i.e. adjacent listing of all siblings of F). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)].

Art Unit: 2167

Claim 19:

The compact interface of claim 16, wherein, upon selection of a live node, a pop-up window that includes a listing of sibling nodes of the selected live node is displayed, a pop-up window that includes a listing of all child nodes of the selected live node is displayed adjacent the listing of all sibling nodes [figures 3, upon selection of F there is a display of g (e.g. sibling), and a listing of all child nodes of the selected display node (e.g. h and i). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], and a pop-up window that includes a listing of at least one level of ancestor nodes of the selected live node is displayed adjacent the selected live node [Figure 3, upon selection of F displays list of at least one level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node. (e.g. c, b, and a). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)].

Claim 20:

The compact interface of claim 16, wherein, upon selection of a live node, a pop-up window that includes a listing of sibling nodes of the selected live node is displayed, a pop-up window that includes a listing of each level of descendant nodes of the selected live node is displayed on a first side of the listing of sibling nodes[figures 3, upon selection of F there is a display of g (e.g. sibling), and a listing of all child nodes of the selected display node (e.g. h and i). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], and a pop-up window that includes a listing of each level of ancestor nodes of the selected live node is displayed on a second side of the selected live node [Figure 3, upon selection of F displays list of at least one level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node. (e.g. c, b, and a). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new

Art Unit: 2167

window (pop-up)].

Claim 21:

A program product stored on a recordable medium for providing a compact interface for display of an object hierarchy having a plurality of levels, which when executed comprises:

program code for displaying a first level root node of the object hierarchy[Figure 2,

discloses an example by displaying A as a first level root node of the object hierarchy.];

program code for displaying a pop-up window that includes a listing of all second level

child nodes of the first level root node immediately adjacent and to the side of the first level

root node, upon selection of the first level root node[Col. 2 line 54-57, discloses node

selection. Col. 2 lines 57-61, once a particular node is selected as the root node, a truncated tree

structure is displayed showing the selected node as the root node, the portion of the tree structure

not branching from the selected node being omitted from the display. Figures 3-4 upon selection

of a node, displays a listing of next level child nodes adjacent to the previous level root node.

Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)]; and

program code for causing the pop-up window that includes the listing of all second level

child nodes of the first level root node to disappear upon selection of one of the second level

child nodes, and for displaying the selected second level child node immediately adjacent

and to the side of the first level root node[figure 3-4 disclose upon selection of a node (e.g. F),

it displays a listing of next level child nodes adjacent to the previous root node (e.g. h, and i). Or

figure 6 wherein selecting the C causes it to display A->C. Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new

Art Unit: 2167

window (pop-up)].

Claim 22:

The program product of claim 21, further comprising:

program code for displaying a pop-up window that includes a listing all third level child nodes of the displayed second level child node immediately adjacent and to a side of the displayed second child node[figure 6, lists third level child nodes of the second level child nodes immediately adjacent the displayed child node (e.g. g and f). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], **upon selection of the displayed second level child node** [figure 6, discloses selecting a second level child node (e.g. C).]; and

program code for causing the pop-up window that includes the listing of all third level child nodes of the displayed second level child node to disappear[e.g. figure 2, we see the window listing all third child nodes of the displayed second child node. Figure 4, we do not see the third level child nodes of the displayed second level child node. Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], **upon selection of one of the third level child nodes**[figure 4, selection of third level child node (e.g. f). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], **and for displaying the selected third level child node immediately adjacent and to the side of the displayed second child node** [figures 4, selected third child node displayed adjacent the displayed second child node (e.g. A->C->F)].

Claim 23:

Art Unit: 2167

The program product of claim 22, further comprising: program code for selectively repeating the above-described steps for at least one subsequent level in the object hierarchy, wherein each selected node is displayed immediately adjacent and to a side of a selected node from a previous level of the object hierarchy [figure 2 we see A. Figure 6, we see A->C. Figure 4 we see A->C->F. Each of the selected nodes are displayed immediately adjacent a selected node from a previous level of the object hierarchy.].

Claim 24:

The program product of claim 23, wherein the first level root node and any selected nodes are displayed in a linear arrangement, wherein only a single node is displayed for each level of the object hierarchy [figures 2-6 element 22 discloses a first level root node and any selected nodes are displayed in a linear arrangement wherein a single node is displayed for each level of the object hierarchy. (e.g. A->C->F)].

Claim 25:

The program product of claim 24, further comprising, upon selection of one of the displayed nodes:

program code for displaying a pop-up window that includes a listing of all sibling nodes of the selected displayed node[figure 3, upon selection of F there is a display of g (e.g. a sibling). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], and a pop-up window that includes a listing of all child nodes of the selected displayed node adjacent the selected displayed node

Art Unit: 2167

[figures 3&4. upon selection of F there is a display of child nodes of F. Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)].

Claim 26:

The program product of claim 24, further comprising, upon selection of one of the displayed nodes:

program code for displaying a pop-up window that includes a listing of at least one level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node[Figure 3, upon selection of F displays list of at least one level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node. (e.g. c, b, and a). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], a pop-up window that includes a listing of all sibling nodes of the selected displayed node, and a pop-up window that includes a listing of all child nodes of the selected displayed node [figures 3, upon selection of F there is a display of g (e.g. sibling), and a listing of all child nodes of the selected display node (e.g. h and i). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)].

Claim 27:

The program product of claim 24, further comprising, upon selection of one of the displayed nodes:

program code for displaying a pop-up window that includes a listing of each level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node[Figure 3, upon selection of F displays list of at least one level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node. (e.g. c, b, and a). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], a pop-up window that includes a listing of all sibling

Art Unit: 2167

nodes of the selected displayed node[figure 3, upon selection of F there is a display of g (e.g. a sibling). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)], **and a pop-up window that includes a listing of each level of descendant nodes of the selected displayed node** [figures 3, upon selection of F there is a display listing of all child nodes of the selected display node (e.g. h and i). Col. 7 lines 5-12, opens a new window (pop-up)].

Claim 28:

The program product of claim 21, further comprising:

program code for associating at least one of the displayed nodes with a functionality[col. 2 lines 1-9, display nodes are a way to view and navigate through a complex hierarchy of information.]; **and**

program code for executing the functionality associated with the selected node, upon selection of one of the displayed nodes [Col. 7 lines 65-67 to col. 8 lines 1-13, upon selection of display nodes it executes menu options.].

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-15 and 21-27 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Applicant asserts the following:

A. That Ku displays a non-compact interface, page 13.

In response, the examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant's assertion that Ku does not display a compact interface. In fact, Ku discusses a problem from the limited space on a

Art Unit: 2167

monitor display associated with a computer. Stating that complex structures may require more room than is available on a particular display. Hence a problem that Ku attempts to resolve is to provide a more compact interface.

B. That Ku fails to disclose the use of pop-up windows as claimed.

In response, the examiner respectfully disagrees. Col. 7 lines 5-12 discloses that an alternate form of the invention, selecting the use as root node command causes the system to open a new tree structure display window and a new path map window over the currently existing windows 21 and 22. As discussed in Ku, selection of nodes may occur in either windows 21 and 22. As applicant's agree, page 13 lines 14-15, a path map window 22 displaying a representation 25 of the node currently selected for display as the root node in the tree structure display window 21. Further as shown in figures 3 and 4, the selection of node F causes displaying a listing of all child nodes of node F immediately adjacent and to a side of F. This is an illustration of one example. This can be similarly shown by selecting node A, and the selection of A causes displaying a listing of all child nodes of A immediately adjacent and to the side of A.

C. That for independent claim 16 Ku fails to disclose first, second, and third level nodes displayed in a linear arrangement. Further asserting that "wherein first level root node and second level node are live, and wherein the third level node is live if it has any child nodes." Stating that a "live" node in accordance with the present invention produces an action in response to a clicking or other activation of the node. Therefore Ku's path map window 22,

Art Unit: 2167

however, the representation 25 of the node currently selected for display as the root node and the representation 26 of each ancestor node for that selected node are not “live” and will not produce an action when clicked on or otherwise activated.

In response, the examiner respectfully disagrees. As to first, second, and third level nodes displayed in a linear arrangement, please see path map 22.

*As to the remaining assertion, Applicant's essentially disagree that in path map 22 the representation of the node currently selected for display as the root node and the representation 26 of each ancestor node that selected node are not live because by definition of a live node from specifications, a live node produces an action when clicked on or otherwise activated. Therefore Applicant's come to a conclusion that in path map 22 the representation of the node currently selected for display as the root node and the representation 26 of each ancestor node are not live. However, the examiner directs applicants to col. 7 lines 14-20, which states that Figure 5 may be used to describe the steps performed by the user to navigate from the display shown in figure 4 to the tree structure from node C. **To produce the node menu input, the user selects node C of the representation 26 from path map 22.** That is, a node in path map 22 can be considered a live node by applicant's asserted definition (i.e. produces an action in response to clicking or other activation of the node).*

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record listed on PTO-892 and not relied, if any,

upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael D. Pham whose telephone number is (571)272-3924. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cottingham can be reached on 571-272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2167


Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Michael Pham
Art Unit 2167
Examiner
11/14/2006 *M.P.*

Cam Y Truong
Art Unit 2162
Primary Examiner

cy

John Cottingham
Art Unit 2167
Supervisor


JOHN COTTINGHAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100